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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, You have planned perfectly for the balance of our listening and speaking. Help us to do both well. You have called us to listen to You in prayerful meditation on Your truth revealed in the Bible. You also speak through Your Spirit to our inner being. Sometimes You shout to our conscience; other times it is a still small voice that whispers to our souls. The world around us asks, "Is there any word from the Lord? What does He want? Is what we are doing in plumb with His plans?"

When we have listened to You, what we have to say cuts to the core of issues. We are decisive and bold. Our voices ring with reality and relevance.

The psalmist longed for this equipoise. He prayed, "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer."—Psalm 19:14.

Bless the men and women of this Senate with the grace to hear Your voice and then speak with an echo of Your guidance and wisdom.

Now we join our hearts in intercession for the people of central Florida whose homes and communities have been devastated by tornados. Bless Senators BOB GRAHAM and CONNIE MACK as they care for their people. Especially, be with those families that have lost loved ones. Comfort and strengthen them. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator LOTT of Mississippi, is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Thank you, Mr. President.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 10:30 a.m., as under the previous consent order. At 10:30 a.m., the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1663, the campaign finance reform bill. Also, under the previous unanimous consent order, the time from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. will be equally divided between the opponents and proponents of the legislation.

In addition, by consent, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m., the Senate will recess for the weekly policy luncheons to meet. Following those luncheons, at 2:15 p.m., the Senate will resume consideration of the campaign finance reform bill, with the time then going until 4 o'clock being equally divided between the opponents and proponents.

Following that debate, at 4 p.m., the Senate will proceed to a vote in relation to the pending McCain-Feingold amendment. Therefore, the first roll-call vote today will occur at 4 p.m. Senators can also anticipate the possibility of additional votes after that vote on the McCain-Feingold amendment. But we do not have a definite time agreement on that presently. Before the 4 o'clock vote, we will notify Senators about the schedule for the remainder of the day.

I yield the floor, Mr. President.

### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business.

Mr. BOND addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is recognized.

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. BOND pertaining to the introduction of S. 1669 are lo-

cated in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. BYRD addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOND). The able Senator from West Virginia.

### THE HIGHWAY BILL

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, other Senators and I have spoken numerous times over the past several weeks about the significant problems that will arise in States across the country if the Senate further delays action on the highway bill. Each day we delay adds to the burden of commuters sitting in traffic that is often moving at a crawl or brought to a complete stop because many of our highways are simply overcrowded. Each day we delay brings us closer to the May 1 deadline—just 39 session days away from today. That includes today—39 days. The time bomb is ticking. Senate session days remaining before May 1 deadline: 39. That includes May 1 as it includes today.

Since 1969, the number of trips per person taken over our roadways increased by more than 72 percent and the number of miles traveled increased by more than 65 percent.

The combination of traffic growth and deteriorating road conditions has led to an unprecedented level of congestion, not just in our urban centers but in our suburbs and rural areas as well. Congestion is literally choking our roadways as our constituents seek to travel to work, travel to the shopping center, to the child care center, and to the churches. According to the Department of Transportation, more travelers, in more areas, during more hours are facing high levels of congestion and delay than at any time in our

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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